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DISLEY
RURAL DISTRICT
COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
and
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
for
1956

COUNCIL OFFICES,
BUXTON ROAD,
DISLEY,
CHESHIRE.

DISLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

1956

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Councillors W. M. Halsall, J.P. (Chairman)

J. A. Burgar

L. Chappell

E. A. Rhodes

A. G. Woods

(as at December 31st 1956)

OFFICERS OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health	T. W. Brindle, M.B.,Ch.B.,D.P.H.
Public Health Inspector	J. Kenyon Hunt, A.R.S.H.,M.S.I.A.
Abattoir Meat Inspector	C. E. Hall, M.R.C.V.S.

Council Offices,

Buxton Road,

Disley.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my report on the health of the Rural District of Disley for the year ended December 31st 1956.

The Food Hygiene Regulations 1955 came into operation during the year and contain new standards of hygiene for food premises which in many ways are an advance on those which they replace. Already many improvements, notably to premises and equipment, have been secured. We must not, however, allow the dazzling brightness of the new chromium plated fittings and plastic working surfaces to blind us to the fact that a high proportion of food-borne disease is the result of faulty methods of food handling, rather than of poor equipment and premises. Further progress in our Clean Food Campaign will depend largely on the success of our continued efforts to teach clean methods of food handling.

The Clean Air Act giving increased powers for preventing air pollution was passed in July 1956 and is now partly in operation. Although air pollution may be a more pressing problem in large industrial centres than in smaller urban areas, there is no room for complacency anywhere. Even in largely residential areas pollution of the air we breathe by domestic smoke is considerable in quantity and is at least as harmful to health as is pollution by industrial smoke. It is imperative that this Council shall take vigorous action and use the new powers fully. Education of the public will be essential to persuade them to accept all the necessary changes. The effort needed to secure clean air will be great and the cost heavy, but the resulting gain in public health will more than compensate.

From 1st October 1956, as the result of an Order made under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 (a) it became illegal to sell milk in the Rural District by retail for human consumption unless either Tuberculin Tested or Heat Treated. This Order makes a notable contribution to the fight against milk - borne tuberculosis.

At the beginning of the year the Minister of Health announced that a small amount of vaccine would be available to vaccinate against poliomyelitis children born between 1st January 1947 and 31st December 1954 whose parents gave their consent. Because of the small supplies, only a small proportion of those registered were vaccinated before the end of the year. The vaccine used was a modified Salk vaccine containing killed virus of all three known types. Before issue it was subjected to stringent safety tests and evidence suggested that it might be expected to have a protective value of 80%.

In August the Sanitary Inspectors (Change of Designation) Act 1956 came into operation and from that date Sanitary Inspectors were to be known as Public Health Inspectors, a change to be welcomed because the new title gives a better description of their work.

I am indebted to the Public Health Inspector, Mr. Hunt, for his help in preparing this report and especially C, D & E which deal with the duties normally undertaken by the Public Health Inspector.

In conclusion, I should like to thank the Chairman and Members of the Council and Health Committee for their unfailing interest in the work of the Department and for their continued support, and the officers of the Council for their valuable help.

I remain,

Yours faithfully,

T. W. BRINDLE,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A

Area, in acres	2,118
Population Census 1951	2,863
Population Mid-Year 1956 (Registrar General's Estimate) ...	3,030
" " " 1955 " " "	3,010
No. of Inhabited Houses	1,098
Rateable Value (1st April, 1956)	£41,648
Product of a Penny Rate (estimated)	£ 164

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE AREA

The area is hilly in character with a wealth of pleasantly wooded slopes rising from a level of 400 ft, at the River Goyt, to the highest point of 1,018 above mean sea level. On the northwest boundary, the residential area of Jacksons Edge follows roughly the line of the 700ft contour.

VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

1. Births.

(a) Live Births

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	26	13	39
Illegitimate	1	-	1
	27	13	40

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population — 1956 - 13.20; 1955 - 12.96

The Live Birth Rate for England & Wales — 1956 - 15.7per 1000; 1955 - 15.0per 1000

(b) Still Births

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	-	1	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	-	1	1

Still Birth rate per 1,000 total live & Still-births — 1956 - 24,39; 1955 - 25.00

England & Wales Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total live & still-births — 1956 - 23.0; 1955 - 23.1

VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR - (Cont'd)

(c) Deaths (General) Rate	Male	Female	Total
All Ages (All Causes)	22	20	42
Death rate per 1,000 population (Disley)	1956 = 13.86		1955 = 14.29
" " " " " (E. & W.)	1956 = 11.7		1955 = 11.7

Deaths (General) Analysis Cause of Death	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	2	-	2
" (other)	-	-	-
Syphilitic Disease	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Other Infective & Parasitic Diseases	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	-	-	-
" " lung & bronchus	-	-	-
" " breast	-	-	-
" " uterus	-	-	-
Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms	2	5	7
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-	-
Diabetes	-	-	-
Vascular lesions of nervous system	5	3	8
Coronary Diseases, Angina	3	2	5
Hypertension with heart diseases	-	-	-
Other heart diseases	4	3	7
Other circulatory disease	-	1	1
Influenza	-	-	-
Pneumonia	1	-	1
Bronchitis	2	2	4
Other diseases of Respiratory System	1	-	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	-	-
Gastritis, Enteritis & Diarrhoea	-	-	-
Nephritis & Nephrosis	-	1	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	-	-	-
Pregnancy, childbirth & abortion	-	-	-
Congenital malformations	-	-	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	2	2	4
Motor vehicle accidents	-	-	-
All other accidents	-	1	1
Suicide	-	-	-
Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
	22	20	42

SECTION A (1956) Continued

VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR - (Cont'd)

Deaths (Maternal Causes)

There was no death attributed to this cause in the District during the year.

Death-Rate (Infantile) i.e. Infants under 1 year of age.

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	1	-	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	1	-	1

Infantile Death-Rate per 1,000 live births:-

1956 = 25.00
1955 = Nil

England & Wales
Infantile Death Rate per 1,000 live births:-

1956 = 23.8
1955 = 24.9

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Laboratory Facilities are available at the Public Health Laboratory at Monsall and also at Stepping Hill Hospital.

The following services are provided by the Local Health Authority and administered by the North East Cheshire Divisional Health Committee.

Ambulance Facilities A 24 hour Ambulance Service is available, being provided by the Stockport Corporation and Derbyshire County Council on an agency basis. In addition, a sitting case car is available.

Nursing in the Home. There is one District Nurse in the Area who undertakes general nursing and maternity work.

Home Help Service. Home helps are available in cases of illness, confinement, old age, etc.

Infant Welfare Centres. Sessions are held fortnightly at the Council Offices. Attendances during the year were as follows:-

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA - (Cont'd)

Centre	New Cases	Total Attendances		
	0 - 1 yr.	0 - 1 yr.	1 - 2 yrs.	2 - 5 yrs.
Disley	43	361	182	244

Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Immunisation Special arrangements are made for immunisation to be performed at the end of each Welfare Session. In addition, immunisation is carried out free of charge by general medical practitioners.

Services provided by the Regional Hospital Board.

Hospitals. There is no hospital within the Rural District, and patients from this area are admitted to hospitals in neighbouring districts. Maternity cases requiring hospital accommodation are also admitted to hospitals outside the area. Where necessary, infectious disease cases other than smallpox are admitted to the Stockport Isolation Hospital. Facilities for smallpox cases are provided at Ellswick Leys Smallpox Hospital, Lancashire, and at the Ainsworth Smallpox Hospital, near Bury.

Tuberculosis and Venereal Diseases. Special clinics for the diagnosis and treatment of Tuberculosis and Venereal Diseases are held at Great Egerton Street, Stockport.

SECTION C

GENERAL SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

1. Water. The area is supplied by the Stockport Corporation Water Undertaking and most of the houses in the district are connected to the mains. A few farms and isolated houses situated on high ground are supplied by natural wells and springs, a few having bore-holes. The situation of these premises and the physical characteristics of the land render the cost of laying mains prohibitive and an almost impossible task.

The water supplied to the district is chemically treated, filtered, and chlorinated, and is subjected to frequent bacteriological and chemical analysis by the Stockport Corporation, and has proved satisfactory. The main road and lower areas of the district are supplied from Kinder and the higher part from the Goyt Valley supply.

2. Drainage & Sewerage. The greater part of the district is sewered and two sewage disposal works are owned by the Council. Most houses are connected to the sewers and those properties which are not, are in isolated positions.

GENERAL SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES - (Cont'd)

3. Rivers and Streams. The River Goyt forms the Northern boundary of the district, and the Bollinghurst Brook in the South Westerly boundary. The effluents from the Waterside and Coppice Sewage Works discharge respectively into these.

4. Sanitary Accommodation.

Water Closets	1,061
Privies	16
Pail Closets	21
Dry Ashpits	11
Ashbins	1,087

5. Public Cleansing A direct labour refuse service is operated by the Council and has functioned satisfactorily. Refuse, and the contents of pail closets have been collected each fortnight. Trade refuse is collected weekly, for which the Council make an appropriate charge.

Household refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping at the Council's Tip in Greenshall Lane. After discharge the refuse is raked over the covered by a layer of overburden sand and the face of the tip is also dressed with sand.

6. Rodent Control A Rodent Operator is employed 2½ days in each alternative week. The Council's sewers were treated for rat infestation during the year, and the infestations were again found to be slight. The sewage works and refuse tip were inspected regularly and treated as necessary. Infestations at the refuse tip were occasionally of a major character.
30 infestations at private property, 6 business premises, and 1 agricultural property were treated.

7. Sanitary Inspections The following number of inspections were made during the year.

Houses Public Health Act and Housing Acts (primary)... ...	65
" " " " " " " (statutory). ...	11
" reinspections	28
" re improvement grants.	17
Council Houses	327
Factories (power)	28
" (non-power)	8
Public Conveniences	35
Rodent Control (period 1/4/55 to 31/3/56)...	194
Refuse Disposal & Collection.	54
Sewerage and Sewage Disposal	69
Drainage...	94
Water supply	5
Schools	3
	938

GENERAL SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES - (Cont'd)

7. Sanitary Inspections (Cont'd)

brought forward	938
Moveable Dwellings	2
Watercourses	4
Smoke Observations	3
Infectious Diseases	6
Petroleum Storage	7
Food Control	118
	1078

8. Smoke Abatement Observations at two factories were made during the year and no action was found to be necessary.

9. Camping Sites There is one permanent camp in the district providing accommodation for children between the ages of 12 to 18 years. It is supervised by a resident caretaker, and the camp is well managed.

10. Schools The area is served by the Disley County Primary (all age) School and one small private school. A one-year age group of secondary modern children attends Hazel Grove County Secondary Modern School. It is intended that all other secondary modern children will be transferred to the Marple Secondary School in 1957. Grammar school education is provided at Macclesfield and New Mills.

Primary school children residing in the Newtown area of the district attend the Newtown County Primary School which is situated in the New Mills U.D.

SECTION D

HOUSING

1. Housing - Clearance Areas etc.

One clearance area, the Taylors Fold Clearance Area, was declared by the Council in April, 1956 and a Clearance Order covering the whole area was made in June, 1956. The Order required the demolition of 6 dwellinghouses plus outhouses and other buildings, involving the displacement and re-housing of 10 persons. A local inquiry into the Order was made on behalf of the Minister of Housing and Local Government on the 5th December 1956.

2 individual houses were closed in 1956, 1 house was made the subject of a demolition order, and 1 house was rendered fit by the owners as a result of formal notice.

2. New Housing During the year 8 Council Houses, 16 Council Flats and 2 Private houses were completed, and at December 31st, 1956 there were 8 Council Houses and 16 Council Flats under construction.

HOUSING

3. Housing Improvements

9 houses were improved during the year:- 6 of these consisted of converting existing bedrooms into bathrooms with indoor waterclosets being provided in most cases; 3 houses were improved by the erection of additional bedroom and living accommodation; there was also a conversion of an external earth closet to a watercloset. In three cases, Improvement Grants under the Housing Acts were made. 3 detached houses were the subject of conversion schemes resulting in the provision of housing accommodation for a total of 7 families.

SECTION E

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

1. Meat Inspection There is one licensed private slaughterhouse in the district at Newtown - all animals were inspected by the Council's Meat Inspector as follows:-

Animals Inspected		Meat Condemned
Cattle	144	2 beasts carcases with offal.
Sheep & lambs	720	2 beasts livers
Pigs	66	5 sheeps plucks.
Calves	3	

2. Food Inspection All food Shops have been regularly inspected and advice has been given where necessary to enable food traders and employees to comply with the new Food Hygiene Regulations. No foodstuffs were found to be unfit for human consumption.

3. Food Premises in District

Licensed Premises	11
Catering Premises	8
Works Canteens	3
School Canteens	1
Butchers Shops	3
Wet Fish Shops	3
Fish and Chip Shops	1
Grocers	5
Greengrocers	3
Bakers	1
General Stores	7
Registered Ice Cream Dealers	8
Confectioners	4
	58

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD (Continued)

4. Food Sampling Sampling of food in the district is carried out by the Inspector of Weights and Measures Department, Cheshire County Council.

5. Food Poisoning No cases of food poisoning were notified during 1956.

6. Milk Since the declaration of this area by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food as a specified area for the sale of designated milk, the retail sale of raw milk produced on farms within the Rural District has ceased, and all such milk passes through the hands of wholesalers before retail sale.

The number of persons retailing milk within the district is comprised of the following:-

9 registered distributors, of whom 7 have their premises situated outside the district.

5 dairy farmers, retailing designated milk not of their own production. These are registered by the Ministry.

The following licences were issued under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1949:-

	Dealers	Supplementary
Tuberculin Tested	7	7
Pasteurised	7	7
Sterilised	7	6

Analysis of Milk Samples

Designation	No. taken	Meth Blue Test		Phosphatase Test		Animal Innoc		Turbidity	
		P.	F.	P.	F.	N.	P	N.	P.
Ungraded	8	6	2	-	-	7	1	-	-
Pasteurised	7	7	-	7	-	-	-	-	-
Tubc./Tested	6	6	-	-	-	6	-	-	-
Tubc./Tested/Past	4	4	-	4	-	-	-	-	-
Sterilised	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-
Totals	30	23	2	11	-	13	1	5	-

P = Passed F = Failed N = Negative P = Positive

The three unsatisfactory samples of ungraded milk were reported to the appropriate officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. One cow with tuberculous infection was subsequently found and dealt with. Repeat sample of those failing the M.B. test were satisfactory.

SECTION F

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

(a) General Number of cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the year:-

Scarlet Fever	6
Whooping Cough	2
Tuberculosis (Non-Respiratory)	1
	9

(b) Analysis of Notified Infectious Diseases

Disease	Under 1	1-2	3-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 & over	Total
Scarlet Fever	-	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Whooping Cough	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Tuberculosis (non-respiratory)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Totals	-	-	5	3	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	9

(c) Diphtheria Immunisation During the year the following children were immunised in the Council's Area:-

	Under 5	Schoolchildren	Total
Primary	30	16	46
Re-immunisation	4	43	47

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES - (Cont'd)

(d) Tuberculosis:

	Cases on Register:-				
	Males		Females		
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non Pulmonary	Total
Cases on Register 1.1.55	13	1	7	6	27
Cases notified in 1956	1 +	1	1+	-	3
	14	2	8	6	30
Cases removed in 1956	2	-	-	-	2
Cases on Register 31.12.56	12	2	8	6	28

+ 1 Transfer (IN)

SECTION G

ADMINISTRATION OF FACTORIES ACTS

Inspection of factories was carried out during the year and all premises were found to be generally satisfactory.

The number of premises and inspections is as follows:-

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Number of Occupiers Prosecuted
(1)Factories in which Secs.1,2,3, 4 & 6 are enforced by Local Authority	5	8	-	-
(2)Factories not included in above in which Sec.7 applies.	16	28	-	-
(3)Other premises (excluding out-workers premises)	4	7	-	-
TOTALS	25	43	-	-

Informal notice was served in respect of 2 premises where there was insufficient sanitary accommodation - the notices were complied with.

Outworkers 1 outworker has been notified.

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